
PROBLEM SOLVING COURTS

The following is a breakdown of the process of obtaining entrance of a criminal defendant into the Tippecanoe County Problem Solving Courts. Application time limits and following process are non-negotiable. If Client is rejected by one program the client will not be eligible for an alternative program.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:

- Forensic Diversion:
 1. Six year minimum sentence
 2. No pending or open cases in any other jurisdiction or court
 3. Must be a Tippecanoe County resident
 4. Program is three years in length minimum
 5. Co-occurring disorder Substance abuse and mental health disorder
 6. Assessment and referral to Forensic Diversion
 7. Acceptance of Clients by Forensic Division Team
- Drug Court
 1. Eighteen (18) to Thirty-six (36) month program commitment
 2. ALL pending or open cases in any other jurisdiction or court must be transferred to Drug Court jurisdiction.
 3. Must be a Tippecanoe County resident during the Drug Court Program
 4. Assessment and referral to Drug Court
 5. Acceptance of Clients by Drug Court Team
- Defense attorney files application for Problem Solving Court within 60 days of criminal filing to Prosecutor's Office. **No extensions on time limits of 60 days will be granted by the Prosecutor's Office. Tippecanoe County Courts uphold these time limits.**
- Prosecutor's Office will determine eligibility for Problem Solving Courts and will either reject outright or forward application to Probation within 5 business days.
- Probation will complete Presentence Investigation that will not include defendant's statement or recommendation for disposition and forward to Wabash Valley.
- Wabash Valley (Tobyn Linton) will complete an assessment, to include recommendations for most appropriate problem-solving court. Defense Attorney to arrange assessment with Tobyn Linton at Wabash Valley.
- Assessment from Wabash Valley will be sent back to Probation for submission to the Prosecutor for final approval and begin draft of plea agreement.
- Prosecutor will forward decision to Probation for distribution of materials to appropriate program. Information to be forward will include PSI, Assessment, charging information and attachments.
- Problem Solving Court Team will vote for acceptance prior to plea agreement and should be completed at next team meeting. Probation representative will provide decision via a status report to the Prosecutor and Court. **Defense Attorney is recommended to attend team meetings when discussion of client takes place.**
- Clean up statements will occur between plea agreement phase and sentencing